

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

USIA-15 DODE-00 /067 W

-----090312 182254Z /66

P 181100Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3410

USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 341

UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 1952

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (YOUNG ANDREW) BB

SUBJECT: PUBLIC REACTION TO AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S VISIT TO BARBADOS

1. AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND HIS PARTY DEPARTED BARBADOS AUGUST 17 FOLLOWING A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL 36-HOUR VISIT. HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH GOB OFFICIALS HEADED BY PRIME MINISTER ADAMS AND FOREIGN MINISTER FORDE CONSISTED OF FRANK EXCHANGES ON VARIETY OF ISSUES I.E. BELIZE, US ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, IMPORT PREFERENCES FOR BARBADIAN PRODUCTS, CIVIL AVIATION PROBLEMS, BARBADIAN IMMIGRATION TO THE US, THE FUTURE OF THE US NAVAL FACILITY, THE INCIDENT INVOLVING SOVIET NAVAL UNITS, BARBADOS' BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEMS, THE ROLE OF THE ENGLISH SPEAKING CARIBBEAN IN OAS AND IADB, BARBADOS' ROLE IN UN AND IN HUMAN RIGHTS BATTLE. WE UNDERSTAND TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THESE DISCUSSIONS IS BEING PREPARED BY AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S STAFF.

2. FROM PUBLIC RELATIONS POINT OF VIEW VISIT AN UNQUALIFIED TRIUMPH. NORMALLY RESERVED BARBADIAN PUBLIC REACTED WITH UNCHARACTERISTIC ENTHUSIASM AND WARMTH TO THE AMBASSADOR AND HIS PARTY DURING THEIR STAY. THE MEDIA WAS DOMINATED BY THE VISIT STRESSING AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S PREVIOUS STAY IN BARBADOS AND HIS UNCLASSIFIED

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MANY FRIENDS HERE. THE GOB HANDLED SECURITY AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS WITH CELERITY, EFFICIENCY AND A GOODWILL WHICH COULD ONLY BE EXPECTED FOR A VISIT BY THE QUEEN OF ENGLAND. (ELIZABETH DUE TO ARRIVE WITHIN A FEW WEEKS).

3. COMMENT: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S VISIT COULD NOT HAVE

BEEN MORE TIMELY. I BELIEVE IT HAS CONSIDERABLY  
WARMED THE SOMEWHAT CHILLY ATMOSPHERE THAT HAS  
EXISTED HERE FROM THE SENSE OF RESENTMENT FELT BY  
MANY BARBADIANS AT WHAT THEY CONSIDER A LACK OF  
US APPRECIATION FOR THEIR SUPPORTIVE ROLE AND OF  
US SUPPORT FOR THEIR DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY. I NOTED  
GOB CAREFUL NOT TO MENTION SPECIFIC AMOUNTS OF  
COMPENSATION AND "RENTAL" EXPECTED FROM US FOR  
RENEWAL OF NAVAL FACILITY--A SIGN OF POSSIBLE  
FLEXIBILITY.

4. AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S DEPARTURE FOLLOWED BY A GENERAL  
SENSE OF LET-DOWN. ON A PERSONAL PLANE, I AM FINDING  
IT HARD TO ADJUST TO PASSING THROUGH THE STREETS IN  
THE OFFICIAL CAR AND NOT HAVING HUNDRES OF ENTHUSIASTIC  
BARBADIANS INCLUDING A LARGE NUMBER OF VERY ATTRACTIVE  
YOUNG LADIES WAVING, CHEERING AND BLOWING KISSES. ORTIZ

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** OVIP, BB, (YOUNG, ANDREW J)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009